Cabinet or the Prime Minister, then we can provide shelter by erecting prefabricated houses and we have got lands also for that. So, that is also engaging my attention and I have asked them to furnish me with reports, and I will get it through. So, if these things are done here in Delhi, in the shortest possible time there will be a major breakthrough so far as the question of providing shelter to people living in Delhi is concerned.

श्रीमती शांति पहाड़िया : श्रीमन्, मैं मंत्री जी से पूछना चाहती हूं कि जो मकान बन रहे हैं क्या उनका मैटीरियल चेक किया गया कि किस तरह का लग रहा है और क्या कास्ट के हिसाब से लग रहा है ?

श्री अब्दुल गफूर : मोहतरिमा का सवाल हाउस के अन्दर पिछली दफा भी उठाया गया । मैटीरियल चेक किया गया और इतनी सख्ती के साथ चेक किया गया कि इसके सिलसिले में बहुत से बड़े-बड़े लोग कुएं में चले गए हैं । जो मकानात बने हैं उनमें इतनी सख्ती बरती जा रही है कि उसका अन्दाजा आपको मकान जो मिले हैं उनमें जाकर ही होगा । इस स्टेज पर और जवाब नहीं देना चाहता ।

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know whether the Government has located the number of families which are living without dwelling units in this country, especially in the rural sector, and whether there is any timebound programme followed by this Government for the purpose of solving the problem of housing for the people of this country.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question has already been answered in reply to another question. Next question.

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA : Sir, since Mr. Gopalsamy has not come, I will put two questions together so that the Minister can conveniently answer.

Purchase of Coconut Kernel by Nafed Centres

*10. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY :
DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA† :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of centres opened by NAFED to purchase coconut kernel all over the country in order to arrest fall in prices ;

(b) what are the names of the centres alongwith the names of the States where these have been opened; and

(c) what is the quantity of coconut kernel purchased by each NAFED centre as on date ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) The purchase of copra is made by NAFED under the market intervention scheme for copra. The scheme is under operation in Kerala and Lakshadweep where 63 and 9 centres respectively have been opened to facilitate the purchases.

(b) and (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

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†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Shyam Sundar Mohapatra.

Statement

As on 31-1-1986

S. No.	Purchase Centre	Quantity purchased (in quintal)
1	2	3
I	KERALA	
1	Nellimood SCB	113
2	Nedumanagad SCB	400
3	Anad FSCB	302
4	Trivandrum Taluk MCS	685
5	Ithikkara MCS	1031.09
6	Quilon MCS	1003.2
7	Eshukone MCS	650.8
8	Sasthamcotta MCS	637.51
9	Coconut processing MCS, Chavara	1248.00
10	Perinad MCS	282
11	Pullad SCS	784
12	Chenganoor MCS	350
13	Karthikappally MCS	3824
14	Kuttanad MCS	2918
15	Shertalai MCS	3000
16	Changanasserry MCS	800
17	Monippally MCS	1422
18	Vadayar SCS	134
19	Vazhakulam MCS	2290
20	Thodupuzha MCS	1620
21	Meloor SCB	850
22	West Chalakkudy SCB	1376
23.	Payya S.C.S.	512
24	Iranikulam SCS	900
25	Valapad SCB	192
26	Engandiyoor FSCB	176
27	Venkitangu FSCB	50
28	Adat ESCB	202
29	TCR, DT Arecanut MCS	88
30	TCR, Tapioca MCS	730
31	TCR, Fruits & Vegetables MCS	292
32	Kuttikad FSCB	258
33	Mullasseri SCB	45
34	Kumaranelloor CMS	83
35	Ponnani PCC MCS	421
36	Tirur Tk. Arecanut MCS	773
37	Manjeri PCC MCS	179
38	Kondotty MCS	1031
39	NMDC Calicut	240
40	Karannur SCB	190
41	Kerala Malanad MCS	678
42	Koduvally SCB	245
43	Vellyappalli SCB	100
44	Ulliyeri SCS	35
45	Chemancherry SCB	53
46	Quilandy MCS	276
47	Badagara Tk. MCS	368
48	NMDC Badagara	33
49	Tellicherry Tk. MCS	628
50	Cannannore Tk. MCS	492
51	Ancharakkandi FSCB	204
52	Mayyil SCB	90
53	Irinavu SCB	117
54	NMDC Payyannoor	414
55	Poilloor SCB	10
56	Kottacherry MCS	879
57	Kasaragod Dt. MCS	869
58	Thrikkaripur FSCB	312
59	Hosdurg MCS	266
60	Padne SCB	273
61	Charuvathur FSCB	291
62	Kasargod MCS	790
63	Udma SCB	265

(upto 11-2-1986)

1	2	3
II	LAKSHADWEEP	
1	Kavaratti	No purchase
2	Kalpen	54.5
3	Amini	79.38
4	Androth	531.5
5	Minicoy	17.55
6	Agathi	751.25
7	Kadmat	208.5
8	Kltan	67.5
9	Chetlet	No purchase

DR. SHYAM SUNDAR MOHAPATRA: Sir, the Minister has said about the purchase of copra in Kerala and Lakshadweep. I would like to impress upon him that other than these two, there are many other States where copra is available in quite abundant quantities. In Orissa the districts of Cuttack, Puri and Ganjam produce abundant copra. Why have these States not been included.

Number two, will the hon. Minister kindly say whether there are many cases of bungling by the NAFED as far as foreign transactions are concerned, whether top executives are involved and whether snch cases are there and are enquired into by the Government?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, so far as number one is concerned, there is no request from any State Government for market intervention. The Kerala State Government requested, and the Lakshadweep Union Territory Administration also requested, and we have intervened in the market to support the farmers.

So far as the second part of the question is concerned, Sir, it is not within the purview of this question because this question pertains to market intervention in the case of coconut.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Kerala is the only State in which coconut oil is used for domestic consumption. Sir, in 1983 there was a severe drought, and because of that there was a steep rise in the price of copra and coconut oil. I am talking of cooking medium.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: You, said domestic consumption.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Domestic consumption does not mean *malish*. It is for cooking.

Sir, in 1983 there was a severe draught, and there was a steep rise in the cost of coconut, copra and coconut oil. As a result of that, Sir, there was a steep decline in the domestic consumption of coconut oil as also in the industrial consumption of coconut oil, and on both the fronts almost by two-thirds, that is 66 per cent, there was a fall in consumption. This fall in the domestic consumption was also encouraged by distribution of palm oil through the fair-price shops by the State Government. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister: With a view to encouraging or supporting or promoting the consumption of coconut oil in the country, will the Minister kindly ensure that there is no distribution of palm oil through the fair-price shops?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Just one minute. Mrs. Rajendra Kumari Bajpai, you have committed a very serious lapse of etiquette todav. When a Memher is speaking, you should not come in between. Please, therefore, observe the rules properly.

SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to know whether the Government is contemplating any measures to stop the distribution of palm oil through the fair-price shops in Kerala?

Number two, to promote the consumption of coconut oil in the industry, chiefly the soap industry and the toilet industry, is the Government considering the question of making it obligatory for these industries to use coconut oil at a fixed percentage of their total requirement of oil ?

On these two points, I want to have information.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: Sir, the hon. Member is right when he says that there was a steep decline because of the production, and I agree with the hon. Member that palm oil should be withdrawn from the public distribution system. It has been done from first of January 1986. Now there is no distribution of palm oil through public distribution system. So, it has been withdrawn and coconut oil is given to the consumers in Kerala.

So far as the other part of the question is concerned, we are in agreement with the hon. Member. We have requested the Industrial Development Ministry to prevail upon the soap manufacturers to use the coconut oil in the manufacture of soap. There is a ban today on the Vanaspati manufacturers to use coconut oil. There also have requested the Industrial Development Ministry to lift that ban so that they may use coconut oil. The Karnataka State Coir development Corporation have requested to convert 3.6 crore coconuts into 2,400 metric tonnes of coconut milk powder. On that also we have requested the Ministry. So, these are the steps that the Government of India have taken in order to promote more use of coconut and copra in the industry so that the price can rise. If the demand is more and supply is less, prices will rise.

SHRI K. MOHANAN: From the list supplied by the Minister himself it is evident that Kerala is one of the States which are facing the difficulty because of the steep crash in the price of coconut. I have my objection to some of the contentions made by the hon. Member, Shri Sukul, in this regard and also to the Minister's agreement to those contentions. From this list it is evident that in spite of the NAFED intervention in the market for the last two months it has purchased only 30,000 quintals of coconut kernel, whereas 30,000 tonnes of coconut kernels are readily available already in the market. So, even after the intervention of the NAFED and paying Rs. 1,200 per quintal, there has not been even a marginal rise in the price of coconut oil, copra or coconut. It is now selling at 95 pase per coconut. Last year it was selling at Rs. 4/-. Of course, I agree that the last year price was because of the drought situation and the decline in the production and all that, but my point is how it has come down from Rs. 4/- to Rs. 0.95 paise even after the intervention by the NAFED and its offering Rs. 1,200 per quintal. There has not been even a marginal increase in the price of the coconut oil, coconut or copra in spite of the Government intervention. What is your explanation to that?

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: The Government of India intervened in the market because the prices of copra have fallen down. We are purchasing copra at the rate of Rs. 1,200/- per quintal in Kerala and also in Lakshadweep. Now, because of our intervention the prices which were earlier prevalling at Rs. 1,050, has gone up to Rs. 1,055 per quintal. That is the rise in the price.

SHRI K. MOHANAN: It is not so. It is fluctuating everyday. One day it goes up, the other day it comes down. It is not correct. As far as the actual grower is concerned, not even a single paisa increase has taken place. It is still at 95 paise. Sir, I would like to get another opportunity to discuss this issue. It is very serious.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.

SHRI K. MOHANAN: I would request you to give me another chance in the form of a Half-an-Hour discussion for a substantial motion to discuss the details on this. It is very difficult for me to express the feelings of the coconut growers of Kerala through the Question Hour time. I humbly request you to give me another chance for a fulfledged discussion on this

MR. CHAIRMAN: You write a letter and I will consider it on merit. Now, Shri Makwana may complete his answer.

SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA: For the benefit of the hon. Members I would repeat it.

Because of the market intervention by the Government, the prices which were prevailing at Rs. 1,050/- per quintal have now gone up to Rs. 1,055. That may be a less increase, but this increase is only due to the intervention by the Government and because of the purchase of a substantial quantity of copra from the market. The farmers have benefited by this. This scheme is for the farmers and growers and not for the traders. The hon. Member may be pleading the case of the merchants who have already purchased it at a lower price from the farmers. But we are not going to purchase it from the merchants. We are purchasing it from the growers through the local cooperative societies.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Now Mr. Panicker. Half a second, no.

Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Price of Coconut and Coconut Oil

*3 SHRI L. GANESAN:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the highest and lowest prices of coconut and coconut oil in the country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what is the number of representations received by Government regarding the fall in prices of coconut and coconut oil; and

(c) what action has been taken on each of these representations so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The lowest price per thousand oconuts was Rs. 1000, Rs. 1900 and Rs. 1050 during 1983, 1984 and 1985 in Rajamundri market. The highest price per thousand coconuts was Rs. 2750, Rs. 3200 and Rs. 3000 during 1983, 1984 and 1985 in Calcutta, Cochin and Calcutta markets respectively. The lowest price per quintal of coconut oil was Rs. 1475, Rs. 3000 and Rs. 1465 during 1983, 1984 in Kozikode and 1985 in Cochin market. The highest price of coconut oil per quintal was Rs 3300, Rs. 3931 and Rs. 3800 during 1983, 1984 and 1985 in Calcutta Bombay and Calcutta markets respectively.

(b) and (c) A total number of 23 representations/memoranda have been received on coconut prices. Since the main thrust of the representations was for a minimum support price for coconut, a scheme for market intervention for copra is being implemented in the State of Kerala and Union Territory of Lakshadweep.

Purchase of milk processing plant Elaxter by D.M.S.

*4 SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY: Will the minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Milk Scheme has recently purchased milk processing plant Elaxte from a company of Finland;